

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MADRID 06051 261117Z

13

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 EA-07 SCA-01 /015 W

----- 023672

P 261036Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0064

UNCLAS MADRID 6051

SCS AND EUR/IB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, SP (GATCH, COL. THOMAS)

SUBJ: W/W MISSING BALLOONIST COL. THOMAS GATCH

REF: (A) STATE 17840 (B) MADRID 5210

1. EMBASSY FINALLY ABLE REACH MILITARY JUDGE CONCERNED
RE UNIDENTIFIED REMAINS RECOVERED BY KOREAN VESSEL IN
AREA CANARY ISLANDS MARCH 19, 1974.

2. WITH REGARD QUESTIONS POSED REFERENCE (B) AUTHORITY
STATED DESCRIPTION OF REMAINS ACCURATE TO BEST ABILITY
OF COMPETENT MEDICAL AND CIVIL AUTHORITIES IN LAS PALMAS
WHO EXAMINED THEM AT TIME. HE STATED EXHUMATION AND
EXAMINATION REMAINS POSSIBLE IF SPECIAL REQUEST MADE BY
EMBASSY, ADDING THAT COMPETENT AUTHORITY AVAILABLE LAS
PALMAS TO MAKE CONCLUSIVE DETERMINATION RE IDENTIFICATION
IN SUCH CASES. JUDGE SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT IN EVENT
GATCH FAMILY WISHES PURSUE MATTER, THAT DENTAL CHARTS,
X-RAYS, AND ANY OTHER PERTINENT MEDICAL RECORDS WHICH
MIGHT SERVE IDENTIFY COL. GATCH BE FORWARDED LAS
PALMAS NAVAL COURT FOR USE IN PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION
(PRESUMABLY TO BE COMPARED WITH MEDICAL AND OTHER REPORTS
DESCRIBING REMAINS NOW IN COURT) PRIOR ANY REQUEST MADE
FOR EXHUMATION.

3. CONCERNING DELAY IN REPORT RECOVERY REMAINS, JUDGE
STATED THAT AS THEY WERE RECOVERED BY FOREIGN FLAG SHIP
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MADRID 06051 261117Z

THERE WAS CONFLICT OVER JURISDICTION. HE COULD NOT FULLY

ACCOUNT FOR LONG DELAY INVOLVED, BUT OFFERED THAT
JURISDICTION FIRST GIVEN SPANISH CIVIL COURT AND FINALLY
ASSIGNED TO SPANISH NAVY. LATTER AUTHORITY NOTIFIED LAS
PALMAS CONSULAR AGENT AUGUST 12 WHO IN TURN REPORTED
MATTER TO EMBASSY.
RIVERO

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MADRID06051
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740271-0600
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740912/aaaaajrh.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCSE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 17840 (B) MADRID 5210
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 JUL 2002 by maustmc>; APPROVED <04 FEB 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: W/W MISSING BALLOONIST COL. THOMAS GATCH
TAGS: CASC, SP, (GATCH, COL THOMAS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005